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Editor's Notes

American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants

American Institute of Accountants

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Continuing Education

Maintaining awareness among its readers of the current state of the art of accounting has always been the primary goal of this magazine—therefore, it is with especial interest that we inform our readers of a resolution adopted on May 12 by the Council of AICPA.

Basically, this resolution urges all states to adopt a requirement which would make it mandatory for all CPAs, in order to maintain registration of their certificate, to demonstrate that they have continued their professional education by completion of a specific number of hours of formal training.

(Readers may remember a short item in the January 1970 issue of this magazine which indicated that beginning January 1, 1972, those persons who wish to register to practice as CPAs in the State of Iowa will have to give evidence that they have attended at least 15 days of continuing education programs within the previous three-year period.)

The resolution in part states:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants urges each of the several states to institute a requirement, by legislation or regulation as may be appropriate, that certified public accountants demonstrate that they are continuing their professional education as a condition precedent to the registration, renewal of permit to practice, or other validation of a CPA's designation.

Council has asked the Committee on Continuing Education, chaired by Elmer G. Beamers, which developed the resolution and the resulting guidelines, to continue to serve and to solicit suggestions for clarification and revisions in the guidelines. (The Committee will meet again before this magazine reaches its readers to consider comments from members of AICPA.)

The guidelines call for 120 hours of "acceptable continuing education" in the three years immediately preceding registration (similar to Iowa's 15 days)—with college semester credit hours bearing the equivalent of 15 hours.

All readers are urged to read the June 1971 issue of *The CPA* for the entire text of the Council resolution and of the guidelines.

This is a monumental step forward for the accounting profession—we realize the problem of adoption by 49 more states will be a lengthy and painful process (and one beset with many dangers)—but we urge each and every reader

to support the spirit of this decision. If accountancy is to continue to be a respected profession, each accountant must never cease his or her individual learning process.

A Woman Among NAA Leaders

We are pleased to note that Jeanne F. Etienne, a member of ASWA from Cincinnati, Ohio, and Secretary-Treasurer of Westernman Print Co., has been elected to a two-year term as an international director of the National Association of Accountants.

The Stock Certificate

Is the crisp-papered stock certificate dying? The memory of the "back office" paperwork buildup of the late 1960s and the recent stories of securities thefts have indicated a need to study our system of indicating and transferring corporate ownership.

The Securities and Exchange Commission hosted an exploratory conference on June 29 to discuss approaches to an industry-wide operational system which would hopefully resolve the problems which we all realize exist.

Among those attending were representatives of the various national stock exchanges, federal bank regulatory authorities, the Canadian Depository for Securities, securities and banking industries, AICPA, corporate and investment community associations, bar association committees, and the National Association of Securities Dealers.

We urge all readers to follow developments in this very timely story. Both as accountants and stockholders, it should be of vital interest.

The Talent Bank for Promotion of Women to Policy Making Decisions

The Talent Bank was organized in February 1970 by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. to create a "bank" of women executives who possess the talent, experience, and desire to serve either full-time or part-time in federal positions. This was a response to a comment by a White House representative that more women were not named to federal positions because organizations failed to submit names of women who could qualify for appointment.

We believe this is a most worthwhile means of getting women into positions of importance; if you believe your talents and experience could be of service to your country—or if you know of a woman who might want to have her name placed in the Talent Bank, contact this Editor.